CLAIMS

1. A method for an event driven virtual workspace in an electronic trading environment, the method comprising:

defining a plurality of windows to be associated with a virtual workspace, wherein the plurality of windows are associated with at least two applications;

defining a trigger to be used to activate the virtual workspace;

detecting the trigger associated with the virtual workspace; and

changing a state of a plurality of windows being displayed on a display unit to display the virtual workspace.

2. A computer readable medium having stored therein instructions to execute the method of claim 1.

3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

before changing a state of a plurality of windows being displayed on a display unit to display the virtual workspace, notifying a user that the trigger associated with the virtual workspace has been detected;

detecting a user input indicating a request to activate the virtual workspace; and

changing the state of the plurality of windows being displayed on the display unit in response to detecting the user input.

4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

defining a trigger-on state for each of the plurality of windows associated with the virtual workspace; and

when the virtual workspace is displayed on the display unit, displaying each of the plurality of windows on the display unit based on the trigger-on state associated with each window.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the trigger-on state defined for each window is associated with windows characteristics.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

defining a trigger-off state for each of the plurality of windows associated with the virtual workspace;

detecting an expiration of the trigger associated with the virtual workspace; and

changing a state of each window associated with the virtual workspace based on the trigger-off state specified for each of the plurality of windows.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

defining at least one limiting condition to be used to restrict the activation of at least one window associated with the virtual workspace;

detecting the at least one limiting condition before activating the virtual workspace; and

preventing the at least one window associated with the virtual workspace from being displayed on the display unit upon detecting the at least one limiting condition.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the at least one limiting condition is at least in part based on a window characteristic associated with the at least one window being displayed on the display unit before the virtual workspace is displayed on the display unit.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein the at least one limiting condition is at least in part based on a user action detected in relation to at least one window being displayed on the display unit before displaying the virtual workspace.

10. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

upon detecting the trigger associated with the virtual workspace, notifying a user that the trigger has been detected;

detecting a user input indicating a request to activate the virtual workspace; and

displaying the virtual workspace in response to detecting the user input.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the trigger is defined at least in part based on trader related data.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the trader related data comprises profit/loss ("P/L") trader related data.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein the trader related data comprises net position trader related data.

14. The method of claim 1, wherein the trigger is defined at least in part based on market related data.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein the trigger is defined at least in part based on news data.

16. The method of claim 1, wherein the trigger comprises a time trigger.

17. A method for an event driven virtual workspace in an electronic trading environment, the method comprising:

defining a plurality of windows to be associated with a virtual workspace, wherein the plurality of windows are associated with at least two applications;

defining a trigger to be used to automatically activate the virtual workspace;

defining at least one limiting condition to be used to prevent activation of at least one window associated with the virtual workspace on a display unit;

detecting the trigger associated with the virtual workspace;

determining that no limiting conditions are detected; and

automatically displaying the plurality of windows associated with the virtual workspace on the display unit.

18. A computer readable medium having stored therein instructions to execute the method of claim 16.

19. The method of claim 16, further comprising:

detecting at least one limiting condition;

notifying a user that at least one limiting condition has been detected;

receiving a user input indicating a request to activate the virtual workspace; and

automatically displaying the plurality of windows associated with the virtual workspace on the display unit upon detecting the user input.

20. The method of claim 17, further comprising:

detecting at least one limiting condition to be used to restrict activation of at least one window associated with the virtual workspace; and

preventing the at least one window associated with the virtual workspace from being displayed on the display unit.

21. The method of claim 17, wherein the at least one limiting condition is at least in part based on a window characteristic associated with at least one window being displayed on the display unit before displaying the virtual workspace on the display unit.

22. The method of claim 17, wherein the at least one limiting condition is at least in part based on a user action detected in relation to at least one window being displayed on the display unit before displaying the virtual workspace on the display unit.

23. The method of claim 17, further comprising:

defining a trigger-on state for each of the plurality of windows associated with the virtual workspace, wherein when the plurality of windows associated with the virtual workspace are automatically displayed on the display unit, each window is displayed based on the trigger-on state defined for each window.

24. The method of claim 17, further comprising:

defining a trigger-off state for each of the plurality of windows associated with the virtual workspace;

detecting an expiration of the trigger associated with the virtual workspace; and

changing a state of each window associated with the virtual workspace based on the trigger-off state specified for each of the plurality of windows.

25. The method of claim 17, wherein the trigger is defined at least in part based on market related data.

26. The method of claim 17, wherein the trigger is defined at least in part based on trader related data.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein the trader related data comprises profit/loss ("P/L") trader related data.

28. The method of claim 26, wherein the trader related data comprises net position trader related data.

29. The method of claim 17, wherein the trigger is defined at least in part based on news data.

30. The method of claim 17, wherein the trigger comprises a time trigger.